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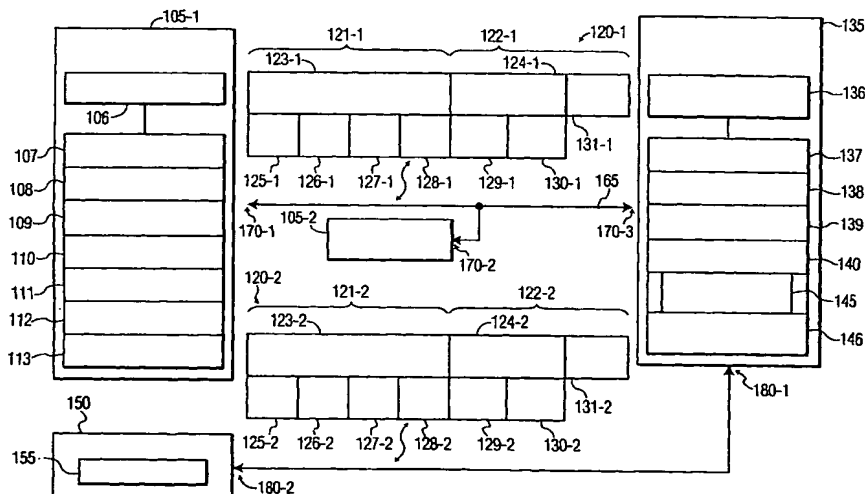
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: CLIENT REQUESTED EXTERNAL ADDRESS MAPPING



(57) Abstract: An access is requested by a local host to a public network. A public address to be used for the access to the public network is determined. A local address, corresponding to the local host, is mapped to the public address. The public address is returned to the local host. A determination is made as to whether an outbound access is to a local network or a public network. When the outbound access is to a public network, then an access is requested to the public network. Public information in response to the request is received. The public information is placed in a payload portion of one or more packets created for the outbound access. The public information generally comprises at least a public port, but may also comprise a public address. The request may supply a local port, so that a public port in the public information will generally conform to the local port.

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**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE,*

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- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations*

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